



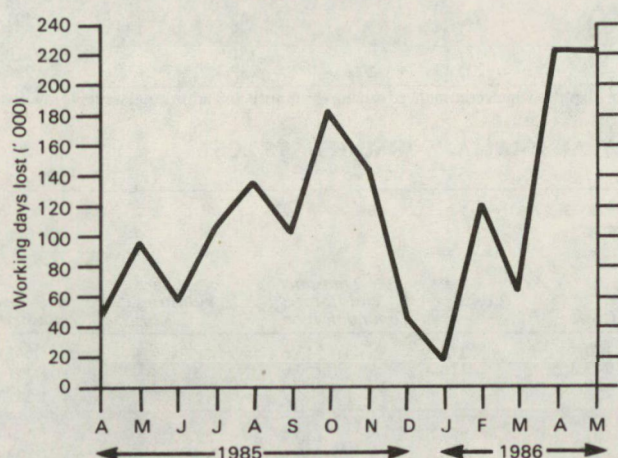
27 AUG 1986

EMBARGOED UNTIL 11.30 A.M. 27 AUGUST 1986

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES, AUSTRALIA, MAY 1986

- PHONE INQUIRIES**
- *about these statistics*—contact Michael Koukoulas on Canberra (062) 52 6561 or any ABS State office.
 - *about other statistics and ABS services*,—contact Information Services on Canberra (062) 52 6627, or any ABS State office.
- MAIL INQUIRIES**
- *write to Information Services*, ABS, P.O. Box 10, Belconnen, A.C.T. 2616 or any ABS State office.
- ON VIATEL**
- key ***656#** for selected economic, social and demographic statistics on VIATEL.

MAIN FEATURES



In May 1986, 220,400 working days were lost by 239,300 workers in 177 disputes. In the 12 months ended May 1986, 1,418,500 working days were lost compared with 1,328,600 and 1,299,900 working days lost in the 12 months ended May 1985 and May 1984 respectively.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Coverage

The statistics relate only to disputes involving stoppages of work of ten man-days or more at the establishments where the stoppages occurred.

2. The figures of working days lost relate to the losses due to industrial disputes (as defined in paragraph 4) and not to aggregate losses for the economy as a whole. Details shown in this publication refer to all disputes in progress during the reference period indicated.

3. The statistics of industrial disputes are compiled mainly from data obtained from employers (both private and government) and trade unions concerning individual disputes and from reports of government authorities. Particulars of some stoppages (for example, those involving a large number of establishments) may have been estimated and the statistics therefore should be regarded as giving only a broad measure of the extent of industrial disputes (as defined).

Definitions

4. For these statistics an *industrial dispute* is defined as a withdrawal from work by a group of employees or a refusal by an employer or a number of employers to permit some or all of their employees to work, each withdrawal or refusal being made in order to enforce a demand, to resist a demand, or to express a grievance.

5. *Workers involved* include workers directly and indirectly involved in disputes. Workers indirectly involved are those thrown out of work at the establishments where the stoppages occurred, but who are not themselves parties to the dispute.

6. Differences between monthly and annual totals of workers involved can occur due to temporary cessations of stoppages that resume in subsequent months. Workers re-involved in this type of dispute are included in the monthly totals.

7. *Working days lost* refer to man-days lost by workers directly and indirectly involved in the dispute and figures are generally as reported by parties to the dispute. For some disputes working days lost are estimated on the basis of the number of workers involved and the duration of the dispute.

8. *Working days lost per 1,000 employees* have been compiled from those lost by workers directly and indirectly involved in disputes involving stoppages of work of ten man-days or more in the establishments where the stoppages occurred. Working days lost in agriculture, etc. and in private households employing staff have been *excluded* from Tables 4 and 5 but *included* in Tables 1 to 3.

9. The estimates of employees are obtained from the Labour Force survey.

Other ABS publications

10. Users may also wish to refer to the following publications:

Industrial Disputes, Australia (6322.0)—issued annually, contains more detailed information including statistics on the cause, method of settlement and duration of industrial disputes.

Labour Statistics, Australia, 1984 (6101.0) (\$4.60, \$6.60 incl. postage)

The Labour Force, Australia (6203.0)—issued monthly (\$1.20, \$2.10 incl. postage)

11. Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications, Australia* (1101.0). The ABS also issues, on Tuesdays and Fridays, a *Publications Advice* (1105.0) which lists publications to be released in the next few days. The Catalogue and Publications Advice are available from any ABS office.

Symbols and other usages

r figure revised since last issue

12. Where figures have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.

IAN CASTLES
Australian Statistician

TABLE 1. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES : AUSTRALIA

Period	Number of disputes		Workers involved ('000)		Working days lost ('000)
	Commenced in period	Total(a)	Newly involved(b)	Total(a)	
1983	1,779	1,787	452.8	470.2	1,641.4
1984	1,958	1,965	551.1	560.3	1,307.4
1985	1,830	1,845	552.6	570.5	1,256.2
Twelve months ended—					
May 1984	1,847	1,866	442.7	445.3	1,299.9
1985	1,890	1,911	618.0	620.6	1,328.6
1986	1,811	1,833	682.0	688.2	1,418.5
1985—					
June	134	156	28.5	34.7	57.3
July	206	230	54.2	60.3	109.8
August	176	210	72.2	96.5	136.3
September	170	192	38.3	60.8	103.3
October	205	230	74.4	82.3	184.2
November	176	200	52.1	56.3	142.4
December	104	117	29.2	32.4	45.0
1986—					
January	77	84	6.3	8.5	15.2
February	r154	r164	r32.3	r48.3	r121.0
March	141	158	26.5	43.2	63.1
April	r107	r127	r32.5	r51.9	r220.5
May	161	177	235.4	239.3	220.4

(a) Refers to all disputes in progress during the period. (b) Comprises workers involved in disputes which commenced during the month and additional workers involved in disputes which continued from the previous month.

TABLE 2. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES : BY INDUSTRY, AUSTRALIA, WORKING DAYS LOST ('000)

Period	Manufacturing				Construction	Transport and storage: Communication	Other industries (a)	All industries
	Coal	Mining Other	Metal products, machinery and equipment	Other				
1983	122.8	194.7	157.6	120.7	337.2	213.6	494.8	1,641.4
1984	131.1	193.2	144.8	249.3	116.3	150.6	322.1	1,307.4
1985	233.8	106.3	107.3	189.4	175.3	180.4	263.7	1,256.2
Twelve months ended—								
May 1984	105.9	273.8	118.4	181.0	258.0	140.9	221.9	1,299.9
1985	235.2	103.9	169.7	199.4	136.4	180.4	303.7	1,328.6
1986	366.3	134.2	154.1	184.7	181.0	159.5	238.7	1,418.5
1985—								
June	11.5	2.5	3.3	6.9	14.1	1.2	17.8	57.3
July	6.3	11.7	6.0	31.0	22.4	16.3	15.9	109.8
August	6.9	16.8	10.5	50.0	19.9	18.6	13.7	136.3
September	25.6	6.8	13.3	11.9	31.4	4.5	9.8	103.3
October	16.0	4.3	4.6	21.6	10.0	27.2	100.5	184.2
November	7.1	32.9	5.6	14.9	10.3	57.6	14.1	142.4
December	18.6	3.1	3.5	3.0	3.3	4.9	8.7	45.0
1986—								
January	1.5	1.0	1.7	1.3	4.3	2.8	2.6	15.2
February	83.3	6.6	r4.0	3.3	r5.3	3.8	14.8	r121.0
March	15.7	5.0	12.2	9.8	3.4	8.5	8.7	63.1
April	r150.7	22.9	7.3	11.8	4.4	4.5	18.9	r220.5
May	23.1	20.7	82.2	19.2	52.2	9.8	13.1	220.4

(a) ASIC divisions A, D, F and I to L.

TABLE 3. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES : STATES AND AUSTRALIA, WORKING DAYS LOST ('000)

Period	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld *	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Aust. (a)
1983	801.2	257.7	135.0	87.7	270.6	67.8	1,641.4
1984	660.6	187.5	236.5	25.5	119.2	50.5	1,307.4
1985	398.7	355.9	336.2	22.5	92.9	20.6	1,256.2
Twelve months ended—							
May 1984	535.5	217.5	158.3	22.6	263.1	78.4	1,299.9
1985	579.6	210.1	355.0	23.9	100.4	34.3	1,328.6
1986	571.0	390.9	243.2	42.0	109.3	25.3	1,418.5
1985—							
June	26.5	22.5	0.7	1.1	3.5	0.5	57.3
July	34.5	37.4	11.6	2.4	13.2	5.4	109.8
August	41.9	21.4	46.6	4.2	13.3	4.7	136.3
September	35.8	7.7	48.2	2.4	6.3	0.6	103.3
October	43.5	119.8	7.7	3.0	7.7	1.3	184.2
November	30.3	64.3	29.3	0.9	11.8	0.8	142.4
December	22.9	6.9	3.7	1.7	3.2	1.4	45.0
1986—							
January	5.7	4.8	1.1	0.7	1.7	0.8	15.2
February	r82.1	6.9	20.3	1.8	5.6	1.8	r121.0
March	37.3	12.2	3.4	2.3	4.1	0.8	63.1
April	r118.8	19.5	57.2	1.6	20.7	0.3	r220.5
May	91.5	67.6	13.5	19.9	18.2	7.0	220.4

(a) Includes the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory.

**CHART 1. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES : BY INDUSTRY, AUSTRALIA, WORKING DAYS LOST PER THOUSAND EMPLOYEES
TWELVE MONTHS ENDED MAY 1985 AND 1986**

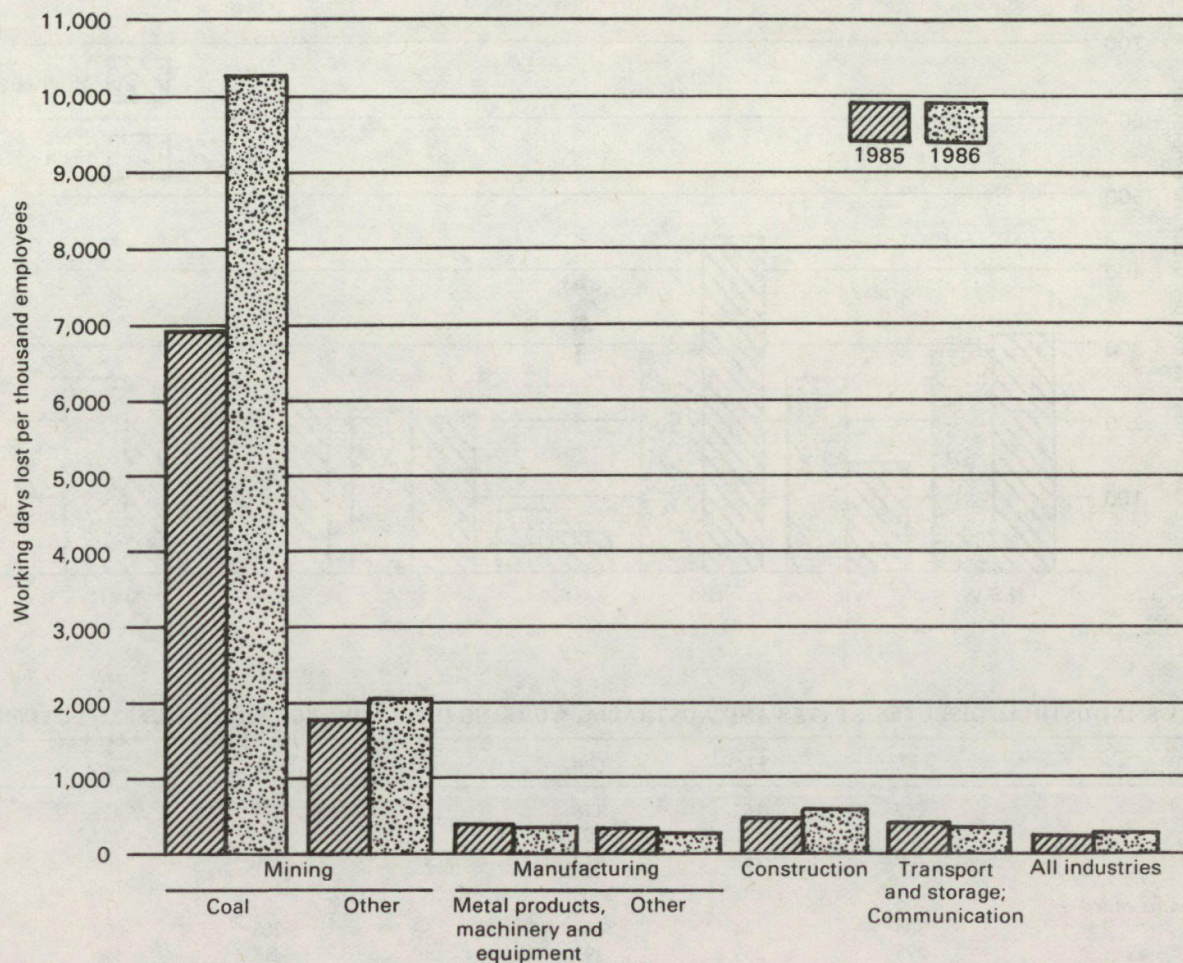


TABLE 4. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES: BY INDUSTRY, AUSTRALIA, WORKING DAYS LOST PER THOUSAND EMPLOYEES (a)

Period	Mining		Manufacturing		Construction	Transport and storage; Communication	Other industries	All industries
	Coal	Other	Metal products, machinery and equipment	Other				
1983	3,223	3,375	353	186	1,269	485	42	249
1984	3,543	3,286	327	387	427	346	94	246
1985	6,739	1,723	242	296	580	404	75	230
Twelve months ended—								
May 1985	6,916	1,760	380	310	469	410	87	246
1986	10,203	2,065	352	288	586	355	66	255

(a) Excludes agriculture, etc. and private households employing staff.

CHART 2. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES: STATES AND AUSTRALIA, WORKING DAYS LOST PER THOUSAND EMPLOYEES, TWELVE MONTHS ENDED MAY 1985 AND 1986

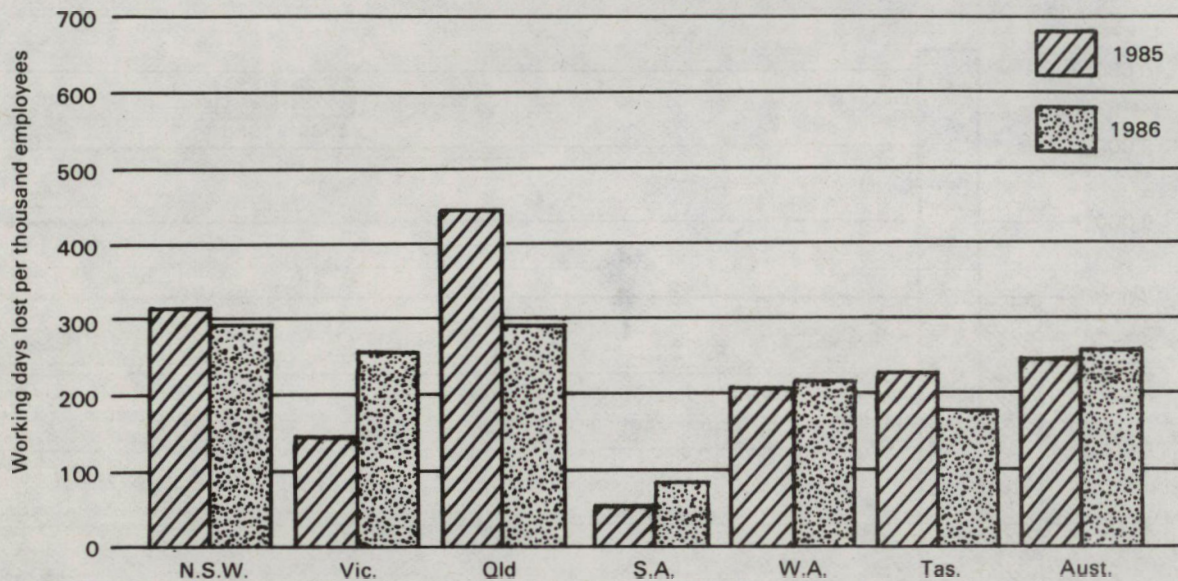


TABLE 5. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES: STATES AND AUSTRALIA, WORKING DAYS LOST PER THOUSAND EMPLOYEES(a)

Period	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Aust.(b)
1983	287	163	176	115	577	478	249
1984	355	131	301	56	251	352	246
1985	209	239	417	48	190	144	230
Twelve months ended—							
May 1985	306	144	448	52	208	228	246
1986	295	259	293	89	218	176	255

(a) Excludes agriculture, etc. and private households employing staff. (b) Includes the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory.